But may he not intend also to serve other ends, not following BO naturally or necessarily ? Most assuredly he may. But it is more difficult for us to determine specially, and in any given case, what these ends are. Some persons decide on this subject as dogmatically as if they had been the counsellors of Deity, or let into all the secrets of his government. There is one inquiry, however, which we should always make, and that is, What are the lessons which we may gather for our own personal instruction ? In making this inquiry in an humble spirit, we may, if guided by a pure moral law and a true religion, gather daily lessons from the dispensations of Providence. In doing so, it is not needful to determine the precise ends of Deity. Our primary anxiety should be to determine what are the lessons which *we* should learn ; and if we are enabled to gather them, we may safely conclude, that this was one of the special ends contemplated in the wisdom of heaven. If it be needful to go farther, we must ever take along with us the rules previously laid clown. We may always connect events together which have a physical connexion ; and in regard to other connexions, we must be quite sure that they are linked by the moral or religious laws of God. The winds that sunk the Spanish Armada, which threatened at once the Protestant religion arid the liberties of England; and, again, the favourable breezes which enabled William of Orange, when these privileges were endangered, to escape the fleet that was ready to seize liim, and land in safety on our shores:* these are providential occurrences, in which pious minds have ever delighted to discover the hand of Grod ; and this, too, with reason, according to the principles which, we

* Mr. Macaulay says, " The weather had, indeed, served the Protestant cause so well, that some men, of more piety than judgment, believed the ordinary laws of nature to have been suspended for the preservation of the liberty and religion

of England. Exactly a hundred years before this, they said the Armada, invincible by man, had been scattered by the wrath of God. Civil freedom and divine truth were again in jeopardy, and again the obedient elements had fought for the good cause. The wind had blown strong from the east, while the Prince wished to sail down the Channel; had turned to the south when he wished to enter Torbay; had sunk to a calm during the disembarkation; and as soon as the disembarkation was completed, had risen to a storm, and had met the pursuers in the face."—Hist. of England, vol. ii. We have quoted this language for the purpose of expressing our astonistoient, that a mind so expanded as Mr. Macaulay's should not have seen that, instead of requiring to suspend his laws, God might have arranged them with the very view of bringing about these beneficent results.